

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SANTIA 01042 031532Z

41

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05

OMB-01 TRSE-00 ACDA-05 IO-10 /078 W

----- 099148

R 031438Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6409

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTIAGO 1042

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, II

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT PINOCHET ON CHILE'S FUTURE

1. SUMMARY: PRESIDENT PINOCHET SPOKE WITH HIS USUAL FRANKNESS AND DIRECTNESS IN HOLIDAY INTERVIEW WITH DIRECTOR OF GOC NEWSPAPER "EL CRONISTA" PUBLISHED DEC 27. PINOCHET SAID LITTLE NEW, BUT HE SHOWED CONFIDENCE IN HIMSELF AS CHILE'S LEADER AND EXPECTATION HIS GOVERNMENT WOULD BE AROUND FOR SOME TIME AS "NEW DEMOCRACY" WAS BEING FORMED. END SUMMARY.

2. DOCTRINE: OTHER THAN DEFINING HIMSELF AS "AN ANTI-COMMUNIST BY UPBRINGING," PINOCHET IN INTERVIEW SHOWED HIMSELF MORE PRAGMATIC THAN IDEOLOGICAL. CHILE MUST BE CONVINCED THAT A "NEW DEMOCRACY" IS NECESSARY, HE SAID. TRADITIONAL TYPE IS OBSOLETE AND DANGEROUS, BECAUSE IT OPENS WAY TO MARXISM, BUT THERE IS STILL NO MODEL FOR CHILE. IN A JEFFERSONIAN VEIN, PINOCHET OPINED THAT MAN CAN GROW ONLY IN LIBERTY, WITH NO "GREATER RESTRAINT THAN THAT NEEDED TO REGULATE CONTACT WITH HIS NEIGHBOR."

3. THE GOVERNMENT: PINOCHT OFFHANDEDLY BELITTLED HIS FELLOW MEMBERS OF THE JUNTA: "I DO NOT SPEAK ANY MORE OF THE JUNTA, BUT OF THE GOVERNMENT." AND REMINISCENT OF HIS STATEMENT OF LAST JULY 4 THAT HE PERSONALLY HAD DECIDED TO CANCEL THE UNHRC GROUP'S VISIT TO CHILE, HE SAID: "I MAKE THE DECISIONS ALONE. SOMETIMES I CALL IN MY MINISTERS, OTHERS, OR THE MEMBERS OF THE JUNTA.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SANTIA 01042 031532Z

(BUT) I TAKE THE FINAL RESPONSIBILITY."

4. CHILE'S POLITICAL FUTURE: THE NEW DEMOCRACY WILL BE AUTHORITARIAN; THE LAW WILL BE OBSERVED AND EQUAL FOR ALL. PARTIES WILL HAVE A RESTRICTED ROLE: " I DO NOT SEE POLITICAL PARTIES AS A MEANS FOR ACHIEVING POWER, BUT AS MERE CURRENTS OF OPINION/" MERELY "THROWING OUR IDEAS," SINCE HE WAS SPEAKING OF A FUTURE "WHO KNOWS HOW HOW MANY YEARS HENCE," PINOCHET OPINED THAT LEADERS WOULD BE SELECTED ON A REGIONAL BASIS TO FORM A UNICAMERAL LEGISLATURE.

5. PINOCHET SAID HE APPOINTS MILITARY MEN OR CIVILIANS ACCORDING TO CIRCUMSTANCES. THE FORMER ARE BETTER DISCIPLINED BUT LESS FLEXIBLE; BUT MANY OF THE LATTER "INTERPRET" ORDERS, WHICH CREATES PROBLEMS. THE CIVILIAN ECONOMIC TEAM, HOWEVER, "ALL SPEAK THE SAME LANGUAGE." PINOCHET LOOKED TO THE FORMATION OF A "NATIONAL UNITY" FROM WHICH HE COULD TAKE MORE CIVILIANS INTO GOVERNMENT. BUT THAT MOMENT HAS NOT YET ARRIVED: " THE NATIONAL MOVEMENT (MUN OR UNA) HAS TO SHOW ME MEN WHO SPEAK THE SAME LANGUAGE, WHO GIVE ME GUARANTEES THAT ONCE INSTALLED (IN POWER) THEY WILL NOT ENGAGE IN PETTY POLITICS." FOR PINOCHET, IT APPEARS, THE DESPISED PETTY POLITICIANS ARE PRESENT NOT ONLY AMONG THE LEFT AND CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS, BUT ALSO IN THE RIGHT, WHICH MAKES UP MON.

6. UNIVERSITIES AND THE MEDIA: BOTH INSTITUTIONS WORRY PINOCHET. PEOPLE IN UNIVERSITIES CONTINUE "LOOKING FOR OLD AND OUTDATED WAYS." AND THE MEANS OF COMMUNICATION "REMAIN INFILTRATED." SOME JOURNALISTS ARE COMPLETELY CLEAN; OTHERS "PRETEND TO BE OBJECTIVE BUT MISREPRESENT IDEAS AND CONCEPTS."

7. COMMENT: PINOCHET CONTINUES TO DIVIDE CHILEANS INTO THE GOOD AND THE BAD. THE FORMER ARE WITH HIM IN TAKING A NATIONAL, APOLITICAL VIEWPOINT, BUT THERE ARE NOT YET ENOUGH OF THEM TO HAZARD TURNING THE COUNTRY OVER TO THEM. THE LATTER OBVIOUSLY STILL HAVE THEIR OWN IDEAS, AND SEE THE NATIONAL INTEREST DIFFERENTLY.

8. THIS INTERVIEW REVEALED ONLY A FEW SPECIFIC POINTS OF PINOCHET'S THOUGHTS ON THE POLITICAL FUTURE: THERE MIGHT ONLY ONE LEGISLATIVE HOUSE; A GOVERNMENT INCREASINGLY IDENTIFIED WITH PINOCHET IS EXPECTED TO BE AROUND FOR A LONG TIME, AND POLITICAL PARTIES

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 SANTIAGO 01042 031532Z

WILL HAVE SMALL POLITICAL FUNCTION IF THEY ARE NOT ALLOWED TO PURSUE POWER. IN ADDITION, PINOCHET LOOKS FAVORABLY ON MUN BUT OBVIOUSLY IS NOT SATISFIED WITH IT AS IT STANDS: THE ORGANIZATION MUST STILL BE TOO NARROW IN ITS OUTLOOK AND TOO WEAK TO BE TAKEN SERIOUSLY. PINOCHET SEEMS TO BE LOOKING FOR A MASS NATIONAL ORGANIZATION THAT WILL NOT BE OSTENSIBLY POLITICAL BUT WILL SERVE AS A RELIABLE TRANSMISSION BELT AND SOURCE OF LEADERSHIP FOR THE GOVERNMENT/

POPPER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL STABILITY, PRESS CONFERENCES, FORM OF GOVERNMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976SANTIA01042
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760002-0112
From: SANTIAGO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760188/aaaadajw.tel
Line Count: 116
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <13 JUL 2004 by morefirh>; RELEASED <13 JUL 2004 by coburnhl>; APPROVED <14 JUL 2004 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESIDENT PINOCHET ON CHILE'S FUTURE
TAGS: PINT, CI, (PINOCHET UGARTE, AUGUSTO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006